IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)		
	Stenland, et al.)	Examiner:	Horning, M.
Serial No.:	10/659,789)	Art Unit:	1645
Filed:	September 10, 2003)	Attorney Doc. No. MSC 8015	
For:	Prion Clearance Using Particulate)		(B185 1210.1)
	Metal Oxides)	Confirmation No. 5573	

Declaration Under 37 CFR § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I, Jarrett C. Terry, residing at 9916 Miranda Drive, Raleigh, NC 27617, state as follows:

- I am one of the applicants in the above-identified patent application and a joint inventor
 of the subject matter claimed in the application.
- 2. The invention claimed in the above-identified application was conceived and reduced to practice prior to April 4, 2003, the effective date of Carbonell, et al., as evidenced by the attached Exhibits 1 and 2. Both Exhibits are copies of notebook pages that were signed, witnessed, and dated prior to April 4, 2003 (actual dates redacted). Exhibit 1 shows experiments wherein 1) a filtrate comprising biological material was spiked with scrapic brain homogenate (SBH; rodent-adapted sheep scrapic brain homogenate, a source of prion protein), 2) the solution was contacted with Cab-O-Sil (a furned silica filter aid produced by Cabot Corporation), and 3) a resulting solution was separated from the Cab-O-Sil filter aid. The gels shown depict substantial clearance of prion protein via contact with furned silica following its removal from the solution. Exhibit 2 shows similar clearance experiments using SBH-spiked samples and subsequent contact of the test

solution with aluminum hydroxide (Al(OH)₃). Again, a substantial clearance of prion protein was noted.

3. The Exhibits show that adding a metal oxide, e.g., furned silica or aluminum hydroxide, to a biological material to obtain a solution comprising a mixture of the metal oxide and the biological material and separating the metal oxide from the mixture to form a resulting solution results in a substantial reduction of pathogenic prion proteins possibly contaminating the biological material. Accordingly, the claimed invention was conceived and reduced to practice prior to April 4, 2003.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge and are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issued thereon.

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PROSS REFERENCES

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Exhibit 2

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